Progress in national lake conservation plan

3213. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that work in only one lake has been started, so far, out of 10 lakes identified for cleaning in the year 1994 under National Lake Conservation Plan;

(b) if so, reasons for such a dismal progress of work under the plan;

(c) number of such other proposals pending with Government for approval; and

(d) fresh steps taken by Government to come out with a comprehensive approach in the matter and execute all the lake cleaning plans with resources in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Out of the 10 lakes identified for cleaning in the year 1994, projects have been approved in respect of Powai lake (Maharashtra), Ooty and Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu), Rabindra Sarovar (West Bengal) and Nainital (Uttaranchal). Works in respect of Powai have been completed and for others they are in various stages of implementation.

Out of the remaining lakes conservation of the Hussain Sagar Lake (Andhra Pradesh) has been taken up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under World Bank assistance and some works for Dal Lake Conservation have been taken with Additional Central Assistance from Planning Commission. The proposals for the projects on conservation of Udaipur (Rajasthan), Sukhna (Chandigarh) and Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) have not been submitted by the respective State Governments.

(d) Government of India is implementing National Lake Conservation Plan since May, 2001. The State Governments were asked to prioritise and send proposals for lake conservation for consideration during Tenth Plan. Proposals other than the 10 lakes identified in 1994 are also being sanctioned depending upon the pollution status, importance of lake, its usage and availability of funds under the Plan.